

Laura White

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care (QCF) learner at Great Yarmouth College

An adult learner, a Social Worker in the making and a role model

Mature learners bring a wealth of life experience to their learning and are often amazing role models and ambassadors for younger learners. Their mature and thoughtful approach often translates into an extraordinary level of motivation and commitment that inspires others.

Returning to education as an adult learner, Laura White studied a BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care (QCF) at Great Yarmouth College and hopes to fulfil a lifelong dream to become a Social Worker. She is currently doing a degree.

Laura has taken on many roles with energy and dedication - single Mum, learner, mentor, Equality & Diversity Officer in the Learner Union, wellbeing ambassador and warm and supportive friend and advisor to many in her college community.

Laura says; 'My dream of becoming a social worker has been life-long; it's something I've always wanted to do. I knew BTEC was for me because it was more vocational; I could get hands-on and learn through work. Going back into education was the first step to attending university to be able to become a social worker. I've always loved helping people'.

Laura's tutor says of her, 'Laura has just been an inspiration for the whole of the course. She came into the college as a mature learner. Her absolute dream was to go and become a social worker, and

she didn't really think she was good enough to do that, but she was inspired to come back and do something more in education. From the very beginning, her first assignment was just amazing; she got a distinction. I think even then she wasn't quite sure of just how talented she was, but throughout the course she has proven herself to be an exceptional learner.

Laura is a prime example of what we admire, and what we desire from our learners and for Laura to have achieved so much, is incredible. She's been an inspirational learner, and having taught on BTECs for so many years, it just verifies what I've always thought of the route into higher education. If I was to sum up Laura in three words, I would say she was kind, generous, and determined.'

